Applicants thank the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present

application. Claims 5-6 and 11-12 are currently pending in this application. Claims 5-6 have

been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-3 and 7-10 have been cancelled. No new matter

has been added by way of the present amendment. For instance, claim 12 has been rewritten in

independent form. The dependency of claims 5-6 has been amended. Accordingly, no new matter

has been added.

At the outset, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Entry of

this amendment is requested under 37 C.F.R. \$1,116, as the amendment raises no new issues which

would require further search and/or consideration by the Examiner. Alternatively, Applicant

requests entry of the amendment in order to place the claims in better form for consideration on

Appeal.

In view of the amendments and remarks herein. Applicants respectfully request that the

Examiner withdraw all outstanding rejections and allow the currently pending claims.

Issues Under 35 U.S.C. 102/103

Claims 1-3 and 7-10

Claims 1-3 and 7-10 stand rejected as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, as being

obvious over Zhang et al. (US 2004/0086782) (hereinafter "Zhang"). Applicants respectfully

traverse.

Claims 1-3 and 7-10 have been cancelled by way of the present amendment.

Accordingly, the rejection of these claims is moot.

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Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Claim 11

Claim 11 stands rejected as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, obvious over JP

2003-138057 (hereinafter "JP '057"). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants submit that the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of

anticipation or obviousness. As correctly acknowledged by the Examiner, JP '057 does not

explicitly or implicitly teach the claimed limitations of average pore size, average rate of open

pores inside the porous film, amount of the coat of the chemical-resistant polymeric compound

relative to the porous film, or a porous film which maintains the properties of the film base.

Moreover, Applicants submit that the above are not "routine experimentations" and, as such, the

skilled artisan would not have been motivated to modify the teachings of JP '057 as proposed by

the Examiner

In view of the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully

requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that claim 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent

form.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In view of

the amendments and remarks herein. Applicants submit that all presently pending claims are in

condition for allowance.

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A Notice of Allowability is thus respectfully requested.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or

rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all

presently outstanding rejections and objections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a

full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the

present application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present

application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Vanessa Perez-Ramos, Reg. No.

61,158 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to

expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies

to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional

fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated:

APR 2 8 2010

Respectfully submitted,

MaryAnne Armstrong Registration No.: 40,069

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